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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.



*Nom. Hugh McCullock
Secretary of the Treasury*

THE
NATIONAL CAPITOL,
THE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES,
AND THE
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT,
SAVED.

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JANUARY, 1861.

WASHINGTON :
1865.

George B. Simpson

THE
NATIONAL CAPITOL,

THE

NATIONAL ARCHIVES,

AND THE

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT,

SAVED.

JANUARY, 1861.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

Independence, Mo., Nov. 30, 1855.

GEORGE B. SIMPSON, Esq.,

Dear Sir;

* * * * * * * * * * *
We have no news of interest, except that we are about to
have a border war with the yankee abolitionists, in Kansas;
both parties are armed.

The Missourians are leaving daily to assist the pro slavery
party. We are looking to hearing of a battle every hour.
* * * * * * * * *

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) SAMUEL D. LUCAS.

Lower Cascades, Columbia River, W. T., Feb. 7, 1856.

Genl. SAMUEL D. LUCAS, *Independence, Mo.*

DEAR SIR: Your brief note of November 30th ultim^o
reached me on the 5th inst.

* * * * * * * * * * *
The border difficulties of which you speak were foreseen
by myself long before the passage of Douglass' bill.

The result that has followed the removal of the Missouri
restriction was inevitable.

The passage of that act I regarded as a second declaration
of equal rights, removing every restriction, and inviting the
two extremes of the Union to an open field, in a fair contest
for civil supremacy.

Excitement, more from fear than from reason, brought the
heated factions of the two extremes into close proximity, and
violence became inevitable.

I deeply regret the conflict of arms, the sacrifice of human
life, and the stain that attaches to the virgin soil of Kansas,
by an appeal to brute force instead of human reason. I sin-
cerely hope the evils of civil war may be avoided, on the

second sober thought of the people, by taking that common sense view of the case which an enlightened world must take, and resign themselves to the dictates of reason, the supremacy of the civil law, and the Constitution.

Nothing can be gained by an appeal to arms; the North will loose its *citizens* and the South its *institution*; the numerical strength of the North is as three to one. How can the South expect to stand before such an array of physical force, with a dangerous servile population of three millions in its midst? Suppose an appeal to arms be made; the South musters into the field an army of one million of men, the North an equal opposing force, and a conflict destroys each army! The North has yet in reserve a population of fifteen millions of souls, with which it may abolish slavery, overrun the South, and maintain inviolate that sacred compact, the Confederation of these States—the Constitution—the Union.

The South has all to loose, the North all to gain.

No, strike not the blow, the ties that bind the Union cannot be severed; on the other hand, every blow but dulls the steel, while each resounding stroke rebounds with redoubled force, inflicting fresh wounds on the body politic, in each division of the Union. My voice is for peace. Let not this great Republic divide against itself, but stand forth in bold relief and solid phalanx against the world, battling for Right, with reason inscribed upon her banner. Let the Eagle and the Banner be the watch-words of the people, while Liberty suspends the scales of justice in which is poised equal laws and equal representation, guarded by the helmet of truth, and illumined by the light of intelligence.

Let not the people be swayed by interest or passion; rather, let them move steadily forward with that high and noble bearing so characteristic of the Father of the Republic, and so eminently worthy of imitation. Then, indeed, will America advance towards the accomplishment of that high and glorious destiny that awaits her in the future. Then may it be the pride and boast of every American, as it was with the ancient Roman, to exclaim, *I am an American citizen!* Behold that beautiful galaxy of States, confederated by the fraternal ties of a common brotherhood, developed and perpetuated by the universal intelligence of the people—*this is my home*. O Liberty, how beautiful are thy garments! Thy ways are ways of pleasantness and all thy paths are PEACE.

* * * * *

Your friend and obedient servant,
GEO. B. SIMPSON.

Washington City, D. C., December 30th, 1860.

His Excellency, JAMES BUCHANAN,
President of the United States.

SIR: Advice unasked is seldom heeded; still, it is not unfrequently the wisest and safest to follow, as it is usually disinterested.

About four years ago I apprized you of the near approach of the events now transpiring in our midst, adverting to your personal safety in the following emphatic language:

"Your stomach has already tasted the poison, your throat may yet feel the knife of this iniquitous inquisition."

The "Constitution" newspaper of this morning informs us of the resignation of Secretary Floyd, and the probable resignation of Secretaries Thompson and Thomas.

This event, in my humble judgment is the most fortuitous that could have happened, as it leaves you free to act. Call to your aid immediately Lieut. General Winfield Scott as Secretary of War, Hon. Daniel S. Dickenson of New York, as Secretary of the Interior, and Hon. James Guthrie of Kentucky, as Secesetary of the Treasury.

This will enable you to defeat the enemies of our Government and preserve the Federal Union.

Very truly yours,

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

Washington, D. C., January 2, 1861.

Hon. MR. MCPHERSON,

SIR: If you will extend your inquiries back to 1850, you will find that in 1853, the Hon. Jefferson Davis, then Seecretary of War, ordered the Government arms and munitions of war from Fort Hall, in Oregon Territory, to be conveyed to Salt Lake City, and sold to Brigham Young; in the same year he also ordered a large sale of muskets, rifles, sabres, swords, pistols, and other Government arms in St. Louis, Mo., all of which were purchased by the agents of Brigham Young.

You will also find that the aforesaid Honorable (?) gentleman is the *leader* of the present disunion movement in the South, and that he has been plotting, planning, and arming not only the *Mormons* but the people of the slave States for at least twelve years, and that he, with the other enemies of our government are determined to break it up if they can.

But inquire into his conduct when Secretary of War under President Pierce, and you will get information of importance.

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

Washington City, D. C., January 23, 1861.

Hon. JOHN A. DIX,
Secretary of the Treasury.

SIR: Not knowing whether the subjoined communication has been submitted to the President, therefore, I deem it my duty to place a copy in your hands, believing the public exigencies to be a sufficient apology for so doing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. B. SIMPSON.

Washington City, D. C., January 13, 1861.

CHARLES FOWLER, Esq.

SIR: In accordance with my promise I herewith submit the programme of the secessionists *per se* which has been in process of maturing since the death of the Hon. John C. Calhoun.

I informed the President and his cabinet of the conspiracy in 1856; in 1857 I pressed the matter upon Mr. Buchanan and his Cabinet, which was the main cause of inducing the President to move a detachment of the United States Army against the rebellious Mormons; in my intercourse with the President on that occasion, I made use of the following emphatic language, to wit: "*The danger is not in Utah, it is in this Capitol—remember the fate of Caesar—your stomach has already tasted the poison, your throat may yet feel the knife of this iniquitous inquisition.*"

Recent events prove all I then foreshadowed; and yet more recent events disclose the alarming fact that the conspirators designed to *coerce* the President to resign his office, that the executive government might devolve on the Vice President, who it is stated is *pledged to the conspirators to acknowledge the Constitutional right of Secession*, thus giving to the whole southern movement the weight and influence of executive sanction. This accomplished, they are then to seize the Federal Capitol, and on the 4th of March 1861, inaugurate John C. Breckenridge President, and Gen'l Joseph Lane Vice President of the Southern Confederacy.

When it was ascertained that they could not *coerce* the President into resignation, it was determined in secret conclave to assassinate him prior to the 5th of February, 1861: which will give them time to inaugurate their confederacy,

with the sanction of President Breckenridge, prior to the constitutional inauguration of the President elect.

The Hon. Jefferson Davis is the leader of the whole southern movement. In 1853, while Secretary of War under President Pierce, he ordered all the arms, ammunition, and military stores at Fort Hall, then in Oregon Territory, to be transported to Great Salt Lake City, and sold to Brigham Young. This was done by Capt. Brent, of the U. S. Army.

In the city of St. Louis, Missouri, in the same year, an unusual number of yagers, rifles, sabres, swords, &c., &c., were also sold to the agents of Brigham Young, by order of Jefferson Davis, then Secretary of War, all of which were transported to Utah in 1855; and in 1856, King Young was prepared for war and openly defied the Federal Government.

Thus you will perceive that the Federal Government has been prostituted to purposes contemplating its own destruction by its own accredited ministers! and, this Honorable Senator from Mississippi not only armed the Mormons at the expense of the Federal Government, but he has armed all the cotton slave States, hence it is, that they too are now ready and prepared for rebellion.

The safety of the Federal Government now depends on the life of President Buchanan; if his life can be preserved till the executive government can be transferred to the in-coming administration, we may escape civil war and revolution; but should President Buchanan and Lieut. General Scott be assassinated as is contemplated by the secret conelaves of midnight assassins, prior to the 5th of February, 1861, our beautiful Washington will immediately fall into the hands of the enemies of our government, and the most fearful consequences will follow—in all probability the public buildings will be destroyed, as well as the government archives, that the evidence of their crimes perpetrated in the name and under the sacred garb of law may be *obliterated* in the general wreck.

I have much proof in my possession of the facts herein stated, and if an opportunity were offered whereby I could give expression to them, I would gladly embrace it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

I may add by way of postscript that the enemies of our government openly boast of having *two hundred thousand men* pledged to their cause in the free States, whose business it will be in the event of a collision between the Federal and State Governments, to destroy railroads, telegraphs, steam-

boats, canals, and other public conveyances, and, if need be, to burn arsenals, dock-yards, magazines, and even cities!—in a word, to interpose every obstacle to the Federal Government that evil geniuses can invent.

G. B. S.

Washington City, D. C., January 23, 1861.

Now, in connection with the foregoing, I am able to state further, that the disunion military organizations in this city now number between one and two thousand men; that they are constantly enrolling members; that they drill them in the open streets at night; and that it is their *fixed* purpose to march in bodies of from one hundred to three hundred men and take possession of all the public buildings *on a night also fixed*, between the hours of twelve and five, a. m.; so that, on the morning following the contemplated seizure of the public buildings and consequently the Federal Capitol, the citizens will awake to the surprise of beholding the public buildings converted into forts and their now apparently peaceful city bristling with the bayonets of citizen soldiary.

On the announcement by telegraph of this event, the disunionists *per se* and their sympathisers in Virginia and Maryland are to rush immediately to the relief of the insurgents and thus hold the Federal Capitol.

Now, Mr. Secretary, I ask in all candor, if there is any power in this Government to prevent the consummation of this design? I have made this statement of facts with the view, if possible, that the Government may take such steps as shall avert the threatened catastrophe.

By the 15th of next month the issue will probably be decided.

Hoping you will pardon the liberty I have taken, I may subscribe myself your very humble,

And obedient servant,

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

FIFTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE.

Washington, May 9th, 1861.

Hon. JOHN A. DIX,

SIR: I desire to call your attention to a communication I had the honor of submitting to you on or about the 15th of January last.

In view of the present aspect of public affairs I cannot too forcibly impress upon your mind the truths set forth in the P. S. to that communication. Rest assured, my dear sir, that there are conspirators in the free States, and so soon as the Federal Government shall commence active operations in the field, so soon will the traitors in the free States commence burning our armories, powder magazines, navy yards, arsenals, railroad bridges, steamboats, telegraphs, towns, and cities: in a word, they will not scruple at destroying life and property by any available means known to fiends and demons; therefore, I would again urge upon you and through you the people of the free States, the absolute necessity of the most untiring vigilance. Look well to your armories, powder magazines, railroad bridges, public ware houses, &c. Allow none but loyal citizens to stand guard during these times.

I have a letter which would probably give you a clue to conspirators in New York city. If advisable, will send you a copy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
GEO. B. SIMPSON.

NEW YORK, May 12, 1861.

GEO. B. SIMPSON, Esq.

DEAR SIR: If convenient, would you be kind enough to send me a copy of the letter to which you refer.

I am, dear sir, yours very truly,
(Signed) JOHN A. DIX.

Washington City, D. C., May 15th, 1861.

HON. JOHN A. DIX:

SIR: Your note of the 12th of May inst. requesting copy of a letter referred to in a former note from me has been received.

The letter to which I referred is dated,

"2 — — , N. Y., April 9th, 1860."

The portion to which I specially referred, is as follows:

"I expect to see the people hang them (Greely, Seward, and Co.,) as traitors before two years. There is a bitterness here now between the two parties, that makes them look at

each other with blood-shot eyes. The next canvass will be one of life and death. The *Fanatics* are paving the way, and threatening and brandishing their arms on every occasion. A little blood-letting will do them good and we are hoping for it. Let it begin in Washington and there will not be a fanatic in *this city in two hours after*. There are two hundred of them marked. The negro thief, Lovejoy, is not so safe as he thinks for in this our land. *There is a silent determined organization of _____ s here that is terrible to think of, and matters are suggested more shocking than the French revolution.*"

(Signed,) _____.

These gentlemen, Col. _____, Doctor _____, _____, _____, and other Virginia and southern men were at the head of this _____ organization; and, from what has since transpired, I deem it but my duty to place these facts in your hands.

The following is my reply:

Washington D.C., April 18th, 1860.

Col. _____:

MY DEAR SIR: Your apology was abundantly satisfactory. In regard to the Charleston Convention, you will probably be disappointed in its action: its nominee may not have been yet named by the public press.

In regard to the determined future action of individuals, in certain contingencies, I entertain no serious apprehension; I regret to learn, however, that such individuals exist in any community or in any country; however, inasmuch as they are believed to exist, they will, should certain contingencies arise, attempt to carry out their determination. However much such action may be deplored by all self-governing men, it can only result in riot or attempted revolution, in which latter respect they will probably be disappointed, inasmuch as the popular sentiment of the American people is averse to it.

The people in this country have assumed the prerogative of a Court, and in all matters affecting their interests, they judge of the fact from the evidence before them, and, after rendering a just and even-handed judgment, they proceed to execute that judgment.

The American people are a reading, thinking, reasoning people, therefore no *pretext* can be sprung upon them in such form and under such circumstances as to involve any considerable number of them in action, until the evidence shall have

been adjudged of by the court and jury—the whole people; therefore, if any attempt shall be made, such as your letter contemplates, it will not only be arrested but effectually suppressed.

I have no fears for the perpetuity of the American Union and the Federal Compact; they were instituted by God, and by Him they will be preserved inviolate; and whosoever interposes obstacles to their continuance, will himself, with his obstacles, be removed out of the way of their divine working, even though it shall call for a sacrifice of three millions of men. God, and truth, and right, are mighty, and they will prevail.

Receive my kind regards, and believe me,

Your friend,

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

It is not impossible that Mr. _____, also of your city; and _____, and Col. _____, of Philadelphia, and other prominent, wealthy, and influential men are in this conspiracy to disrupt the Government. I have positive proof of _____ and _____, the _____ leaders in _____, and their agents and aids in Foreign countries who have long since avowed their determination to destroy this Government. It was this proof also referred to in my communication to you on or about the 15th of January last.

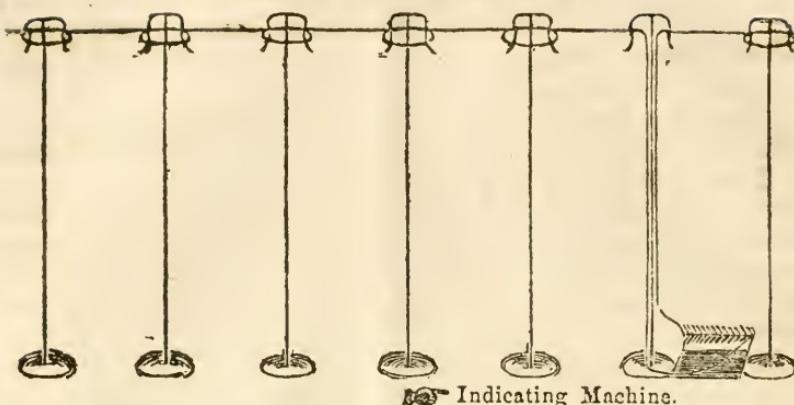
However incredible these facts may appear to you, they are, nevertheless, true, and before this difficulty is permanently settled truths will come to light that will astonish the world; and be not alarmed when I assure you that *Monarchists in Europe* are the main springs of the whole movement.

In the present state of public affairs, these facts claim your serious consideration.

I am, sir, very truly, yours,

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

IMPERFECT TELEGRAPH.



Washington City, D. C., June 5, 1861.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State:

SIR: Herewith please find rough drawing representing imperfect telegraph lines.

Assuming all the telegraph lines now in the possession of the Federal Government to be *perfect*, the natural inference would be, that the Government could conceal from the public all its important telegraphic dispatches. On the other hand, assuming an important line extending from this city in a northern direction as *imperfect*, in the manner indicated in the drawing, and you will perceive that all messages dispatched over that line must pass through an *indicating machine* concealed from the public and in the hands of the enemies of the Government! I do not *know* this fact to exist, but I think it possible and highly probable, inasmuch as some of our enemies appear to understand all the movements of Government.

It would require a very minute examination of the telegraphs to discover a *diversion* of a continuous line, for the reason, as appears in the drawing of the *imperfect* line, that the disconnection may be very slight and entirely concealed by a covering of gutta percha or other material.

My only object in making this suggestion is to put the Government in possession of information of a *possible defect* in its telegraphic operations.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
GEO. B. SIMPSON.

*Inventor of the Submarine Telegraph Cable,
5th Auditor's Office, U. S. Treasury.*

Washington City, D. C., December 18th, 1861.

HON. GIDEON WELLS.

Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: From the present aspect of our National affairs, a war with England is not improbable.

I would therefore most respectfully suggest, that a marine or submarine *torpedo* may be constructed for blowing up the enemy's ships at a distance of one, five, or a greater number of miles; that a submarine armor or boat may also be constructed for the purpose of attaching explosives to the bottom of ships, to be ignited by a galvanic or electric battery, and thus accomplish the same object.

It is therefore confidently believed by the undersigned, that missels of war may be thus created at comparatively trifling expense, which, when put into practical operation will exterminate the English navy within ninety days.

A strong desire for the welfare of my country induces me to offer these suggestions.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. B. SIMPSON,

Inventor of the Submarine Telegraph Cable.

Washington, December, 1861.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I have known Geo. B. Simpson, Esq., for a number of years intimately, and have had conversations with him relative to the exciting questions involving our common country, and have ever held him as an uncompromising friend of the Union, and that before the commencement of our troubles in travelling in Utah and Kansas, he ascertained some matters relative to the movements of the conspirators then holding high positions under this Government, which he endeavored to expose by well written articles in the National Intelligencer in 1857, and had his timely warning then been heeded, a preventive might have been initiated to prevent the wholesale devastation made on the property and armies of the United States, by the rebel States. I, therefore, unhesitatingly assert from my personal knowledge of Mr. Simpson, no truer friend to the Union as

it was, and as it is bound again to be, does not exist in this district.

THOMAS C. DONN,
*Justice of the Peace for Washington County,
District of Columbia.*

To HON. SALMON P. CHASE,

Secretary of the Treasury of the United States of America:

SIR : It is with the profoundest astonishment, that I learn a charge of disloyalty has been preferred against Mr. George B. Simpson, a clerk employed in your department. Such a charge certainly could not have come from any truly loyal man who knew him. From my acquaintance with him and knowledge of his acts during last winter, while I was employed as one of the extra police force for the protection and defence of the National Capitol, I should not have been more surprised, had your honor been thus charged. During that period of darkness, doubt, treachery, and treasonable plottings, when this city swarmed with disloyal persons, this gentleman communicated to me and to the Capitol police generally, important information concerning the machinations of the plotters of rebellion in this city, to guard us against surprise, and in every becoming way, showed himself to be a true and hearty friend of the Republic, and zealous to expose treason and traitors to the proper authorities. The details of what came within my own knowledge, I am ready to communicate and establish by the due forms of law whenever called upon to do so by the proper authorities.

MOSES FOSTER.

Washington, D. C., December 4, 1861.

NOTE—Secretary Chase removed me from office in the U. States Treasury (to which position Secretary Dix appointed me for having furnished the information herewith submitted,) upon the perjured oath of one John A. Miller, given before the Potter Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, and after all the evidence of my *devotion* to the Union herewith submitted, with ten times as much similar testimony *not* herewith submitted, had been placed in *his hands* as a disclaimer to the said perjured oath of John A. Miller, he, Secretary Chase, *refused to reinstate me*, thus giving the weight of his influence and position in *favor* of an inquisition whose only merit seemed to be the *secrecy* with which it executed its nefarious designs.

GEO. B. SIMPSON.

History of the Civil War in America, by JOHN S. C. ABBOTT,
Vol. 1, page 51. Is the following letter :

Washington, January 7, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR : "On the other side is a copy of resolutions adopted at a consultation of Senators from the seceding States, in which Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi, and Florida, were present. The idea of the meeting was, that the States should go out at once, and provide for the early organization of a Confederate Government, not later than the 15th of February. This time is allowed to enable Louisiana and Texas to participate. It seemed to be the opinion, that if we left here, force, loan, and volunteer bills might be passed, which would put Mr. Lincoln in immediate condition for hostilities, whereas, by remaining in our places until the 4th of March, it is thought we can keep Mr. Buchanan's hands tied, and disable the Republicans from effecting any legislation which will strengthen the hands of the incoming Administration."

In haste, yours truly,
(Signed,) D. L. YULEE.

True copy,
GEORGE B. SIMPSON, *August, 1865.* U. S. Senate.

On the retirement of John B. Floyd from the War Office, Hon. Joseph Holt, was appointed to succeed him.

On the 18th of February, 1861, Mr. Holt addressed a letter to the President in reply to a resolution of the House of Representatives, inquiring into the state of the defences in Washington City.

The following are extracts from this letter: "At what time the armed occupation of Washington City became a part of the revolutionary programme is not certainly known; more than six weeks ago, the information had been already obtained, that the conspiracy for the accomplishment of this guilty purpose was in process of formation, if not fully matured."

"Whatever may have been the machinations of deluded, lawless men, the execution of their purposes has been suspended, if not altogether abandoned, in view of preparations which announce more impressively than words, that this administration is alike able and resolved, to transfer in peace

to the President elect the authority that, under the Constitution, belongs to him."

(Signed,) _____

JOSEPH HOLT.

History of the Civil War in America, by JOHN C. ABBOTT,
Vol. 1, pages 82 and 84.

A true copy,

GEO. B. SIMPSON, August, 1865.

The extracts from the letter of Mr. Holt and the full letter of Senator Yulee (brothers-in-law) are conclusive proof of all that is stated in my communication to Hon. John A. Dix, then Secretary of the Treasury.

Now, let us look at the political situation for a moment as it is now known to have existed at that period.

The Government was in the hands of James Buchanan; and it has been erroneously alledged that he was one of the original conspirators; but if persons will take the trouble to examine into the facts as they then existed, it will appear plain to every honest and unbiased mind that, had he been one of the original conspirators against the life of the Republic he had it in his power to have transferred the Government into their hands. When, however, he failed to recognize the "*Constitutional right*" of a State to secede from the Federal Union, a commission was instituted in South Carolina and authorized to proceed to Washington and remind the President of his implied obligation to the South, in this, the emergency which tried their very heart-strings, which commission signally failed in the accomplishment of its desired object.

Prior to the return of this commission it was decided in solemn council to assassinate the President, and, if necessary, to assassinate Lieut. Gen'l Winfield Scott, when Vice President Breckenridge would succeed to the Presidency, who would instantly recognize the "*Constitutional right of a State to secede from the Federal Union*" by official proclamation, when the Capitol would be seized, a military line would be established along the southern border of Pennsylvania, and on the 4th of March following, Messrs. Breckenridge and Lane would be inaugurated President and Vice President of the United States. This course was essential to secure the recognition of foreign governments, as without the Executive sanction to the Constitutional right of a State to secede, the act would

have been regarded by them as an usurpation ; and upon this point turned the whole controversy ; therefore, in communicating these facts to Secretary Dix, I expressed the opinion in effect that, " everything now depends on the preservation of the life of President Buchanan until the Government can be transferred to the incoming administration."

Had President Buchanan been one of the original conspirators there could have been no necessity for the South Carolina Commission ; and in all human probability a knowledge of the conspiracy would not have accidentally fallen into my possession ; on the contrary, Mr. Buchanan would have *unqualifiedly recognized the right demanded* by foreign Governments, the Federal Capitol would have been seized on or before the 15th day of February, 1861 ; a military line would have been established on the southern border of Pennsylvania, and on the 4th of March following, Messrs. Breckinridge and Lane would have been inaugurated President and Vice President of the United States, and *this Government* would have been recognized by all the leading Foreign Ministers at Washington as the Government *de facto* of the United States.

Now, suppose this information had not accidentally fallen into my hands ; or, having fallen into my hands, I had failed either from design or otherwise to communicate it to the proper authorities ; what would have been the result ? Why, the conspirators would have had the government ; the Federal Capitol and its National archives, the Army, Navy, Treasury, and Department of State, all would have been theirs, *confirmed* by the recognition of nearly all the foreign Governments. Suppose, again, under these circumstances the Republican party had attempted to organize a new government under Messrs. Lincoln and Hamlin, where would they have met ? In Philadelphia, New York, or Boston, of course. What would President Breckinridge have said to this assembly ? Would he not have declared it a treasonable convention and ordered its members to disperse, giving them a reasonable time to do so, and in the event of a failure on their part to comply with this order, would he not, as the recognized President of the United States, have called for volunteers to defend the Capitol and suppress the rebellion ? Would he not, in accordance with prior understanding, have called upon England, France, and Spain, by the use of their navies to aid in the blockade of our northern coast from the St. John's to the entrance of the Chesapeake ? Would not the whole Canadian frontier have been in harmony and fraternal accord with the movement ? Would not the Mexican scheme have

been a complete success and its Government a powerful ally? And, with the great Democratic party at that time throughout the free States fully sympathizing and fraternizing with them, what, let me ask, *cauld* the Republic Convention and party have done! Without pursuing these inquiries further, I will give it as my deliberate opinion, that the insurgent movement would have been a success, and would have compelled either a separation of the States or a compliance with the demands of the South upon the question of Slavery.

However, this, now, is mere speculation; the issue was joined and has been decided; and the American Republic *lives, lives ever!*

The statement made in this paper relative to a knowledge of the fact and a participation in the original act of the conspiracy by some of the Foreign Ministers at Washington, cannot, I suppose, be established by documentary proof; nevertheless, I know the statement to be true from personal acquaintance and intercourse with some of the eight or ten Englishmen who at that time edited the Constitutional newspaper, all of whom were in the interests of and were leagued with the original conspirators, and some of whom were in daily intercourse with Lord Lyons, the British Minister. Subsequent facts, however, more than confirm the statement; and it will be difficult for either England or France ever to convince the American people that the fact is not as stated. As for myself, I firmly believe that evidence of their complicity in the treason will yet come to light which will fully convict them.

Very respectfully,

GEO. B. SIMPSON,

Gettysburg, Pa., September 5th, 1865.







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